



CITY OF NEEDLES

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Mayor Jeff Williams
Vice Mayor Steve Thomas
Councilmember Don McCone
Councilmember Rebecca Valentine
Councilmember Richard Pletcher
Councilmember Roy Mills
Councilman Robert Smith
City Manager – William W. Way Jr.

July 21, 2008

Ms. Lynette Esternon Green
Renewable Energy Program
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS 45
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: City of Needles SB 1 Solar Initiative Program Report for the Period 1/1/08 to 3/31/08

Dear Ms. Esternon Green,

The following represents the report of the City of Needles ("City") for the referenced time period:

Solar program overview and contribution toward goal

The City has been actively involved in disseminating information and discussing the benefits of solar with rate payers since September 28, 2006.

The major obstacle to bringing more solar PV on line in Needles is lack of financial wherewithal on the part of rate payers: It is a major barrier to entry. The average solar PV system costs \$25,000. The median household income, per the 2000 census, was \$26,400. That means that the cost of a solar PV system is 95% of the median household income here in Needles. As a further indication of this paucity of financial wherewithal, the Needles Unified School District serves "Needy Meals" lunches to 61% of its students.

The City remains committed to driving the program ahead. Since April 1st, another solar PV system has been installed.

Number of submitted applications

During the report period, those efforts continued. Seven serious-minded rate payers indicated expressions of interest to the point of opening dialogue with solar vendors; two ultimately submitted applications and one completed an installation.

One EPBI/PBI application approved

No EPBI/PBI applications rejected

Total incentives awarded

Total public goods charge funds collected during reporting period: \$35,000

Total solar incentives expenditures: \$5,000

All other program expenses, by category: The City has not heretofore charged against the public goods funds collected for force accounts labor (coordinator, electric department, building official, et al) so that there might be maximum dollars available to pay PBI.

Total number of systems installed, including:

The one system installed serves an existing single family residence.

Amount of added capacity installed and expected generation:

Rated unit capacity: 4.992 KW

Estimated Annual Energy Output in Kwh: 7,920 Kwh

Should you have any questions please feel free to call me at (760) 326-5700X323, or e-mail me at ndlscityproject@citlink.net

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

David G. Brownlee Jr
Solar Initiative Coordinator